

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV in an Internet TV system comprising the Internet TV, in which a function of accessing the Internet and a function of receiving a TV broadcast are combined, and a server for operating a portal site which provides information to the Internet TV, the method comprising:

transmitting a message from the Internet TV to the server requesting authentication for use of information during a current session;

transmitting a message from the server requesting an authentication number from the Internet TV;

transmitting the requested authentication number from the Internet TV to the server if the authentication number is available, checking a validity of the transmitted authentication number, and providing information to the Internet TV for the current session if it is determined that the authentication number is valid;

requesting a new authentication number from the server if the authentication number is not available, registering a user in accordance with information collected by the server,

receiving a new authentication number from the server, and providing information to the Internet TV for use during the current session; and

storing the new authentication number in a memory device of the Internet TV for use during a later session.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, comprising:

(a) transmitting a message requesting authentication for use of information to a portal server and transmitting a response from the portal server requesting transmission of an authentication number when the Internet TV is turned on;

(b) determining if the authentication number requested by the portal server is available and transmitting the authentication number to the portal server if the requested authentication number is already available, and determining an authentication number based on additional information collected by the portal server and transmitting the authentication number to the Internet TV for storage if the authentication number is not already available; and

(c) transmitting information related to the message requesting authentication for use of information from the portal server to the Internet TV.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

determining if the Internet TV is in a default state;

requesting the portal server to search for an authentication number corresponding to the Internet TV when the Internet TV is in a default state;

inputting user information requested by the portal server; and

receiving the requested authentication number and storing the received authentication number in a memory device.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

if the authentication number is not available, requesting the portal server to provide a new authentication number with respect to the use of information; and

receiving a new authentication number from the portal server and storing the authentication number in a memory device.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein step (c) comprises:

(c1) examining the authentication number; and

(c2) receiving information from the portal server when it is determined from the examination of the authentication number that the authentication number is a normal authentication number.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

providing user information requested by the portal server when it is determined from the examination of the authentication number that the authentication number is not a normal authentication number; and

receiving an authentication number transmitted from the portal server and storing the received authentication number in a memory device.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, comprising:

(a) requesting a portal server to obtain an authentication number when the portal server receives an access request message from an Internet TV with respect to the use of information;

(b) transmitting a new authentication number from the portal server to the Internet TV if the authentication number is not provided by the Internet TV, wherein the new authentication number is established based on additional information collected by the portal server after the portal server receives the access request message if the authentication number is not provided by the Internet TV; and

(c) providing information related to the access request message with respect to the use of information to the Internet TV in response to the received access request message.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the portal server remains in a stand-by state waiting for an access request message.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
requesting the Internet TV to provide user information when the received access request message requests the portal server to search for an authentication number; and
determining whether a user is registered in a database when the user information is received and transmitting an authentication number if the user is registered.

10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, comprising:
requesting the Internet TV to provide user information when it is determined that a user is not registered in the database; and
assigning a new authentication number to the Internet TV when the user information is received and transmitting the assigned authentication number to the Internet TV.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:
checking for an error in the authentication number when the received access request message includes an authentication number;
determining whether the user is registered in a database when an error is not

detected in the authentication number; and

providing information to the Internet TV according to whether a user fee is paid when it is determined that the user is registered in the database.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the error is checked using a check sum method.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
transmitting an error message when an error is detected in the authentication number;

requesting the Internet TV to provide user information and determining whether the user is registered in the database; and

transmitting a corresponding authentication number when it is determined that the user is registered in the database.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising registering the user in the database and providing information to the Internet TV when the user information is received.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

determining whether a user fee is paid; and

transmitting a message to the Internet TV informing that the user fee is not paid

if it is determined that the user fee is not paid.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

requesting the Internet TV to provide the user information when the received
access request message requests the portal server to provide a new authentication number; and

registering the user, assigning a new authentication number to the Internet TV,
and transmitting the new authentication number when the user information is received .

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein checking a validity of the
transmitted authentication number comprises:

checking for an error in the authentication number; and

accessing user information in a database if an error is not detected in the
authentication number; and

providing information to the Internet TV regarding user fees if the user information indicates that a user is registered.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising:

transmitting an error message when an error is detected in the authentication number;

requesting user information from the Internet TV and determining whether the user is registered in the database; and

transmitting a corrected authentication number if the user is registered in the database.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining if the Internet TV is in a default state.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the new authentication number in a memory device of the Internet TV.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising registering a user in accordance with a user registration form requested by the portal server.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the authentication number is accessed from a memory device of the Internet TV if the authentication number is provided by the Internet TV.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising accessing the stored authentication number to gain access to the Internet during a later session.